

# UNDERSTANDING VALLEYS

Dr. Mike Wells, Pastor, Wednesday Evening, February 15, 2012

PHILIPPIANS 4:12 "I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need."

## The Valley of Poverty

### **Introduction:**

There are two different Valleys of Poverty that we will study tonight:

1. Providential Valleys of Poverty
  - a. These are valleys of God's design.
  - b. He is teaching us through these valleys to still trust in HIM for our strength.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Valleys of Poverty

### **Luke 15:13-14**

13 "And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. 14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want."

5. Keeping the \_\_\_\_\_ company
6. Robbing God

## **B. Lessons from the Personal Valleys of Poverty**

1. Learn to be content with a \_\_\_\_\_ less instead of a \_\_\_\_\_ more.
2. Learn to tithe your \_\_\_\_\_ and give a love offering.
3. Learn how to have a \_\_\_\_\_ to get out of debt, not in debt.

### **Malachi 3:8-12**

8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. 9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. 10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. 11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts. 12 And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

**Proverbs 13:18**  
"Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction..."

**Proverbs 23:21**

**Proverbs 28:19**  
"...he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough."

**Proverbs 30:8**

**I Timothy 6:9**  
But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

**Mark 12:42-44**

**Leviticus 27:30**

**Romans 13:8**  
"Owe no man any thing..."

**Proverbs 3:27**



**I Timothy 6:17**

**Philippians 4:19**

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

**Psalms 23:1**

"...I shall not want."

**Psalms 84:11**

"...no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."

**Matthew 6:24**

"...Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

**Luke 16:11**

"...who will commit to your trust the true riches?"

**I Timothy 6:6**

"... contentment is great gain."

**II Corinthians 8:2**

"...their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality."

**Hebrews 11:26**

"Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt..."

## I. The Providential Valleys of Poverty

### A. Understanding these Providential Valleys of Poverty

1. This is not a valley of your making.
2. This is a valley of \_\_\_\_\_ making.
3. This is a valley of \_\_\_\_\_.

### B. Lessons from the Providential Valleys of Poverty

1. Learn to put your trust in God and not in \_\_\_\_\_ riches.
2. Learn to let the money be your \_\_\_\_\_, not the Master.
3. Learn to place monetary things in a right perspective.
4. Learn to walk by \_\_\_\_\_ and not by sight.

*"Your faith level is determined by your level of obedience."*

*Dr. Jack Hyles*

**Proverbs 22:1**

**Ecclesiastes 4:8**

**Luke 12:15-21**

"...for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth... Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee...So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

**I Timothy 6:6-8**

**Proverbs 6:6-11**

"...Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep..."

**Proverbs 20:13**

**Proverbs 11:24**

**Ecclesiastes 5:13**

"...riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt."

**Ephesians 4:28**

*"God judges what we give by what we keep."*

*George Mueller*

5. Learn that \_\_\_\_\_ is much when God is in it.
6. Learn to choose \_\_\_\_\_ over riches.
7. Learn that riches will not \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Learn that prosperity is not measured in the \_\_\_\_\_ that a man possesses.

*"The real measure of a man's wealth is what he has invested in eternity."*

*Preacher*

9. Learn that God will meet your \_\_\_\_\_ and everything you want is not a need.

## II. The Personal Valleys of Poverty (the self-induced valley)

### A. Understanding these Personal Valleys of Poverty

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_